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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/596,287	06/15/2000	Robert D. Kostadina	8788-000004	1374

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CHICAGO, IL 60610

EXAMINER

TO, TUAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3663

DATE MAILED: 08/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/596,287

Applicant(s)

KOSTADINA, ROBERT D.

Examiner

Tuan C To

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-14 and 16-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10, 12-14 and 16-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8, 9, 11, 15, 20 and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10, 13.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 06/26/2002, paper #10 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) because it does not include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent listed that is not in the English language. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

In the IDS filed on 06/26/2002, the foreign patent documents are not considered since the applicant does not submit them in the English language.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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3. Claims 1-7, 10, 12-14, and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brachert et al. (US 5832402) and in view of Mine et al. (US 6208927), and Hiwatashi (US 6094614).

Claims 1-7, 10, 12-14, and 16-19: Brachert et al. basically disclosed a vehicle control system and method for controlling vehicle, including anti-lock brake system, traction control system, and stability system, and a controller coupled to those systems (See Fig. 1, Fig. 2; Column 2, lines 1-67, columns 5 and 6, lines 1-67). Bracheret et al. did not disclose that the controller adapted to receive a vehicle position signal and said controller further adapted to receive a weather signal, wherein said weather signal effects determination of said characteristic. Mine et al. disclosed another vehicle control system and method for maneuvering a vehicle. Mine et al. overcome the deficiency of Brachert et al. by the teaching of GPS device for determining the position of the vehicle (See column 4, Lines 26-35). Hiwatashi disclosed a vehicle control system and method for controlling vehicle, including anti-lock brake system, traction control system, and stability system, and a controller coupled to those systems, including an air temperature sensor 34 for detecting outside air temperature. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to improve the system and method of Brachert et al. by teaching GPS receiver for accurately determining the current position of the vehicle compared with the position of the road curvature. And air temperature sensor provided for inputting the weather signal to the controller. As discussed above, the teachings of Mine et al. and Hiwatashi would be a substitution of missing features from Brachert et al. The advantage of the combination

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is to notify user that whether the vehicle is traveling on a recommended road and the current temperature from the outside.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 8, 9, 11, 15, 20, and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Amendment

5. The applicant's amendment and arguments filed on 06/18/2002 have been fully considered.

The examiner has found that the U.S patent No.' 614 to Hiwatashi disclosed the weather signal and plurality other features recited by applicant. Therefore, the application would be obvious over Brachert et al., Mine et al., and Hiwatashi combination.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (703) 308-6273. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Cuchlinski can be reached on (703) 308-3873. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-7687 for regular communications and none for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

/tc

August 20, 2002


WILLIAM A. CUCHLINSKI, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600